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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/527,126	03/08/2005	Joanne Ng	CA920020071US1	1083

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN KIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2456

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/07/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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RSWIPLAW@us.ibm.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/527,126		NG ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Van Kim T. Nguyen		2456	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :3/19/09; 11/21/08; 06/20/08 and 06/19/08.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive to communications filed on March 8, 2005.
Claims 1-16 are pending in the application.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on June 19, 2008; June 20, 2008; November 21, 2008 and March 19, 2009 are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by the examiner.

Priority

3. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. PCT/GB03/04328 filed on October 01, 2003. The priority date considered for the application is October 04, 2002, which is the filing date of Foreign Application mentioned above.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 15-16 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claims, or amend the claims to place the claims in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claims in independent form.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 15-16 disclose the limitation "a computer readable signal bearing medium" which is non-statutory under 35 USC 101.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wichmann et al (US 7,277,924), in view of Smith et al (US 7,499,948).

Regarding claim 1, Wichmann discloses an apparatus for displaying to a user a web page session for a web application, the web page session displaying a plurality of associated collaborative portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by the user (steps 240-270; Figure 2, col. 5: lines 43 – col. 6: line 10), comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to the web application (portal web server 110; Figures 1-3; col. 5: lines 35-50);

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a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on the portal server (web provider 120/login server 130; Figures 1-3, col. 3: line 40 – col. 4: line 15);

access means to access a database (operatively connected to one or more databases to store, manage and retrieve data; col. 4: line 16 – col. 5: line 2); and

selection means to select a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on information provided by the user (based on assigned permission levels, user may be restricted to content at multiple levels of granularity, e.g., web pages, folders, portlets, and individual items on a web page (col. 6: lines 41-62).

Wichmann discloses substantially all the claimed limitations, except the database adapted to store rules, comprising controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, and page groups to users.

Smith teaches database adapted to store rules, comprising controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, and page groups to users (abstract, and col. 5: line 52 – col. 6: line 4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Smith's teaching in Wichmann's system, motivated by the desire to provide users with B2B or B2C solutions, i.e., tailoring services to match personalized needs.

Claims 4, 9-10 and 15-16 are rejected under the same basis.

Regarding claim 2, Wichmann-Smith also teaches a pluggable rules engine (Smith; col. 24: lines 1-15), and a portlet application aggregation engine which selects rules from the rules database and applies rules to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user as required (Smith; abstract, and col. 5: line 52 – col. 6: line 4).

Claims 5-6, 11-13 and 15-16 are rejected under the same basis.

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8. Claims 3, 8, 14 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wichmann et al (US 7,277,924), in view of Griffin et al (US 7,451,477).

Regarding claim 3, Wichmann discloses an apparatus for displaying to a user a web page session for a web application, the web page session displaying a plurality of associated collaborative portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by the user (steps 240-270; Figure 2, col. 5: lines 43 – col. 6: line 10), comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to the web application (110; Figures 1-3);

a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on the portal server (110, 120, 160; Figures 1-3 and 7, col. 8: lines 36-56 and col. 10: lines 6-58);

access means to access a database (accessing data stored in an associated central repository/a database by associating a subscriber identifier with each user; col. 4: line 16- col.5: line2 and col. 6: lines 38-41); and

role selection means to select a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on an identified role of the user as required (display a web page customized based on a CPUI which uniquely identifies the user; col. 9: lines 33-46).

Wichmann does not explicitly call for the roles database containing rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users based on user roles.

Griffin discloses the roles database containing rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users based on user roles (col. 3: line 21 – col. 4: line 50, and col. 5: lines 3-45).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Griffin's teaching in Wichmann's system, motivated by the desire to provide users with B2B or B2C solutions, i.e., tailoring services to match personalized needs.

Claims 8, 14 and 15-16 are rejected under the same basis.

9. Claims 7 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wichmann –Griffin, as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Smith et al (US 7,499,948),

Regarding claim 7, Wichmann-Griffin does not explicitly call for a pluggable rules engine and a portlet application aggregation engine, which applies rules from the rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

Smith teaches a pluggable rules engine (Smith; col. 24: lines 1-15) and a portlet application aggregation engine, which selects rules from the rules database and applies rules to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user as required (Smith; abstract, and col. 5: line 52 – col. 6: line 4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Smith's teaching in Wichmann-Griffin's system, motivated by the desire to provide users with B2B or B2C solutions, i.e., tailoring services to match personalized needs.

Claim 16 is rejected under the same basis.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

System and Method for Customizing a Data Display Using a Presentation Profile, Lee et al (US 7,331,018); and

Computer-Based Presentation Manager and Method for Individual User-Device Data Representation; Hofmann et al (US 7,281,060).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Van Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3073. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Van Kim T. Nguyen

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Examiner

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vkn

/Yasin M Barqadle/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456